

Sherman	Sweeney	Visclosky
Sherwood	Talent	Vitter
Shimkus	Tancredo	Walden
Shows	Tanner	Walsh
Shuster	Tauscher	Wamp
Simpson	Tauzin	Waters
Sisisky	Taylor (MS)	Watkins
Skeen	Terry	Watt (NC)
Skelton	Thompson (CA)	Watts (OK)
Slaughter	Thompson (MS)	Weiner
Smith (MI)	Thornberry	Weldon (FL)
Smith (NJ)	Thune	Weldon (PA)
Smith (TX)	Thurman	Weller
Snyder	Tiahrt	Wexler
Souder	Tierney	Whitfield
Spence	Toomey	Wilson
Spratt	Towns	Wise
Stabenow	Trafficant	Wolf
Stearns	Turner	Woolsey
Stenholm	Udall (CO)	Wu
Strickland	Udall (NM)	Wynn
Stump	Upton	Young (AK)
Stupak	Velazquez	Young (FL)
Sununu	Vento	

NOT VOTING—34

Becerra	Jackson-Lee	Rodriguez
Blumenauer	(TX)	Ros-Lehtinen
Boswell	Johnson, Sam	Roukema
Cook	Kasich	Royce
Cox	Klink	Rush
Deutscher	McCollum	Smith (WA)
Duncan	Meeks (NY)	Stark
Franks (NJ)	Mollohan	Taylor (NC)
Gonzalez	Myrick	Thomas
Hansen	Ortiz	Waxman
Hinojosa	Pickett	Weygand
	Reyes	Wicker

□ 1851

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, due to the primary election in my state of Texas today, I was unavoidably detained and missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yea" on H.R. 3699 designating the Joel T. Broyhill Post Office; "Yea" on H.R. 3701 designating the Joseph L. Fisher Post Office

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall numbers 46 and 47, I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DEUTSCH. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained today during rollcall vote No. 46 on H.R. 3699 and rollcall vote No. 47 on H.R. 3701. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on both.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 396

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Resolution 396, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a biennial budget process should be enacted in the second session of the 106th Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1501, JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1501 tomorrow. The form of the motion is as follows:

Ms. LOFGREN moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1501, be instructed to insist that the committee of conference should have its first substantive meeting to offer amendments and motions within the next 2 weeks.

Madam Speaker, while I understand the House rules do not allow Members to coauthor motions to instruct, I would like to say that the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) supports this motion and intends to speak on its behalf tomorrow.

SUPPORT HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

(Ms. CARSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 431, a bill to support humanitarian relief assistance to the Republic of Mozambique. The people of Mozambique have suffered tremendous hardship due to rains that started over a month ago. The flood's side effects of disease, homelessness, and hunger are even more damaging when coupled with 2 million displaced land mines left over from the civil war.

Just as the people of Mozambique seem to be turning the corner to independence, democratic government, and economic advancement, this tragic event has occurred that only, some say, only a God in heaven can control.

As humans, we cannot rationalize or understand nature's catastrophes. As a country, we must follow our belief that not only is the aid to Mozambique necessary because of our national interests and stability, but also because of our moral interest. If there is any short-term gain in this tragedy, it is an opportunity to pass the test of compassion, charity, and humanity that God administers.

I reiterate and encourage the Members of this august body to support H.R. 431, which will provide humanitarian relief assistance to the Republic of Mozambique.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TRIBUTE TO VETERAN CONGRESSIONAL AIDE CARY BRICK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a sense of mixed emotions, because it is an occasion of good-byes, but it is also an opportunity to recognize the work and career of someone who is very special to this House, and certainly to me personally, my chief of staff, Cary R. Brick. His 30-year Congressional staff career spans the service of three consecutive New York State Congressmen. He really has an uncommon record of service, and I am pleased that I have this opportunity tonight to say a few words.

Cary is the most senior chief of staff in the New York Congressional Delegation, and, in fact, one of the most senior staffers to serve this institution. He began his Capitol Hill career in January of 1969 as press secretary to the late Robert C. McEwen, and later served as his executive assistant. When Bob McEwen retired in 1980, Cary was appointed by his successor, former Representative David O'Brien Martin, to serve as his administrative assistant.

When I was elected following Dave Martin's retirement in 1992, I asked Cary to stay on as my chief of staff as well, and it remains to this day one of the easiest and certainly one of the best decisions I have made in my 7-plus years in this House.

Cary Brick has served our current office, that of my predecessors, and our Congressional constituents with the highest level of dedication and enthusiasm. There are few, if any, communities, institutions, organizations or individuals in our district who have not benefited in some way from his work.

Additionally, as the administrator of my Congressional allowances, Cary has made it possible for us to return nearly \$1.5 million to the Congressional coffers, without ever sacrificing the needs of the office and our constituents. He has handled his many responsibilities with the highest level of integrity and has gained a well-earned reputation on Capitol Hill as a dedicated professional.

At a time, Madam Speaker, when the Congressional staff turnover rate is estimated to be 40 percent a year, it is unlikely that anyone will ever equal his achievement. His retirement is a loss to the institution of Congress, the people of New York's 24th Congressional District, his fellow staffers, and me personally.

There are many remarkable things about Cary Brick's career as a Congressional aide, but, rather than citing his impressive biography, I would share but a single glimpse into Cary's psyche that I believe reveals much about what makes him particular.

□ 1900

Simply put, Cary loves New York's North Country. Just as Dorothy loved

Kansas in the Wizard of Oz, Cary truly believes that there is "no place like home."

Although he and his wife, Erin, have raised two beautiful daughters in their Northern Virginia house, Sarah and Rebecca have always known their home is in New York. His strong ties to the North Country and his strong sense of community have helped him keep that perspective. He never lost sight of what matters most. Although his job brought him to Washington, D.C., Cary embraced, even relished, the fact that he worked for every citizen of New York's 24th District.

Through his service as my chief of staff for the last 7½ years, our interaction has been far more than a work relationship. We have celebrated the many achievements our combined efforts have produced; and there have, of course, been a few disappointments over which we have agonized together as well. He has been my advisor, my confidant, and most of all, my friend. In a town where personal ambition often obscures public interest, I can say without hesitation that Cary's brand of loyalty and friendship has been a priceless gift.

When Cary publicly announced his retirement, one quote stood out as a great "sound bite" that stood out time and time again and on Capitol Hill. He said, and I quote, "To have been an inside observer of congressional participation and debate in every national and world event during the final third of the 20th century is an awesome opportunity that few others have had." Awesome, indeed.

However, Mr. Speaker, nothing about Cary's quote should lead anyone to believe that he has in any way been on the sidelines or a mere observer. Rather, he has been a soldier on both the front lines and in the war room. His battlefield has been Capitol Hill. From Watergate to the Gulf War to the closure of Plattsburgh Air Force Base, he has earned his stripes through many battles. His weapons have been quick thinking, his unmatched instincts and his constant integrity; and his ammunition has been the power of his words and his proven ability to mobilize forces.

For your uncommon commitment, loyalty and sense of duty, Cary, we all salute you.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield at this time to the gentleman from New York (Mr. WALSH), my friend and colleague and neighbor to the south and a good friend and associate of Cary Brick's as well, for a few comments.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding time. I have a prepared statement that I would like to enter into the record regarding Cary Brick, and it was penned by a good friend of his, my chief of staff, Art Jutton who has served almost as long as Cary has. Cary was always referred to as the dean of the delegation because of his seniority. I suspect Art may be in line for that, although Mr.

Brick may not want to give up that title.

Cary has been a true exemplary public servant, someone who has served the country well, served his Members of Congress well, served the people of the North Country well. He is a role model for anyone who would be willing to enter public service and suffer the slings and arrows that we take in this business; but he never lost his sense of humor, never lost his wisdom and his ability to stand back from the fray and make a cognitive decision that is always of benefit, not only to the Member of Congress in whose office he served, but to other Members who were smart enough to ask.

So I would like to join my colleague. I identify with everything that he said. I wish the gentleman well in his selection of a replacement, although it is a tough pair of shoes to fill. Mr. Speaker, my best to Cary and his family as he retires.

KICKING OFF THE REBIRTH OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RURAL CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DEAL of Georgia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the two preceding speakers for recognizing Mr. Brick. All too often I think those that serve us so well do not get the particular commendation that they are so richly deserving of; and I am very pleased that this individual, in the capstone of his distinguished career, received the kind of recognition just provided.

Mr. Speaker, this is kick-off day, kick-off of the Rural Caucus. I particularly want to commend the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON); the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON); and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), my cochairs in the Rural Caucus, in announcing the rebirth of this important endeavor. As a representative of one of the most rural districts in the House, the entire State of North Dakota, I am very pleased with this initiative and proud to be a part of it.

In the last 7 years, our Nation's economy has been growing by leaps and bounds. Unemployment rates are at all-time lows, consumer confidence is at an all-time high, the rising stock market is creating unprecedented levels of wealth. But for this sky-rocketing economy for so many Americans, the situation in rural America, our smallest towns and villages across the country, has been quite different. The boom of Wall Street is not meeting necessarily the needs of rural Main Streets. I think rural America is at a serious crossroads tonight. As I travel throughout my home State, I literally see many fine, long-standing communities shrinking and disappearing.

In an ever-more urban House, we have to understand the distinct and

enormous challenges facing rural America. In the House today, there are only 57 Members out of the 435 who represent predominantly rural areas compared to 130 years ago. We know that after the next decennial census now being conducted, the rural representation in this Chamber will shrink even further. According to census information, however, 1 out of 4 Americans, 62 million, live in rural areas. Due to the lack of representation, I believe, of rural America in the House, many rural Americans suffer from funding formulas or programs that do not represent their unique needs.

Mr. Speaker, we have had 110 Members, Republican and Democrat both, join in the rebirth and relaunch of the Congressional Rural Caucus. I think that this initial success is due in large part to the stress that the rural areas in each of our districts is experiencing. In North Dakota the agriculture sector is facing a flat-out depression. Farmers are receiving \$2.50 a bushel for wheat, nearly 30 percent below the cost of production. In North Dakota the farm auctions replace the church picnic as a social gathering in many communities. I am hopeful that the Congressional Rural Caucus with Members from all over the United States will be able to advocate Federal policies that address our most pressing needs in rural America.

In addition to production agriculture, however, there are many interrelated facets of our rural communities that need attention and will be emphasized by the Rural Caucus, issues like education, health care, technology and economic development. They are all essential parts of our small towns in rural America. Without the access to quality education, rural residents fall behind the learning curve. Without access to quality health care, they stand exposed to unexpected health concerns. Without access to technology, rural residents will be left out of the technological revolution. Without investments in rural development, our communities and our residents will not find places of employment, new economic opportunities for them, to continue living in these parts of the world.

Education, for one, is a vital component to the prosperity of rural America. We take great pride in the quality of our schools and the student achievement; but in keeping the quality of rural schools, we know that there is going to be an ongoing commitment of resources and partnership between local, State, and increasingly Federal participation. This critical investment in our children is one of the most cost-effective ways to ensure opportunity and prosperity. Unfortunately, most Federal funds are channeled to larger urban school districts. Small and rural school districts, we feel, have not gotten their fair due, and this will be a target area of the caucus.

Another pressing issue is rural health care. We hear about millions who lack health care coverage, and yet we see in